

#2-J

APR 23 1937

April 23rd, 1937

Mrs. W. S. Jennings  
1845 Main Street  
Jacksonville, Florida

Dear Mrs. Jennings:

There seems to be a thought about, and this includes some members of the Everglades National Park Commission, that the Department of the Interior will accept a given portion of the area within the maximum boundaries authorized for the Everglades National Park for national park inclusion, and later, if deemed expedient, add to this as opportunity to acquire further lands may present itself.

Were such a thought a fact, our Commission could center on the lands easily obtainable and by turning those over to the Department of the Interior establish an Everglades National Park nucleus, possibly extending the boundaries from time to time. I do not understand, however, that this is the plan, but to the contrary as set down on enclosed copy of the Everglades Park Enabling Act (see underscored lines).

On our plans for future activities on the part of the Park Commission, it seems to me very important that we are all uniformly well grounded on the limitations of the project before us, that there can be singleness of opinion and, in consequence, effectiveness of action.

The notation attached to Dr. H. C. Bryant's report (enclosed) contains statements, which, if true, and they are, should quite completely dispel the arguments rather freely indulged in that any one individual has had a dominant influence in shaping the determinations of the Department of the Interior, or its Bureaus, concerning the Everglades National Park project.

I quite freely admit, and do it with pardonable pride, that I have through several years of close application to the subject endeavored to bring before the authorities in Washington data obtained from numerous sources, which would be serviceable in shaping conclusions